

Cluster Area CV: Early Childhood Transition (CBT)

Question: Do all children exiting Part C receive the transition planning necessary to support the child's transition to preschool and other appropriate community services by their third birthday?

State Goals: (for reporting period July 1, 2002 through June 30, 2003)

- The positive reasons for exiting First Steps will increase and the negative reasons will decrease.
- The performance of children who receive early intervention and special education services prior to age 5 will increase on the school entry profile.

Performance Indicator: (for reporting period July 1, 2002 through June 30, 2003)

- All children exiting Part C receive the transition planning necessary to support the child's transition to preschool and other appropriate community services by their third birthday.

From OSEP letter for the Self Assessment:

Part C – Early Childhood Transition:

OSEP could not determine from the self-assessment whether:

- (1) IFSPs include transition plans, as required under 34 CFR §303.344 (h);
- (2) Transition conferences are convened at least 90 days prior to a Part B – eligible child's third birthday, as required under 34 CFR §303.148 (b) (2) (i).

1. Baseline/Trend Data and Analysis: (for reporting period July 1, 2002 through June 30, 2003)

Children receiving transition meetings or equivalent during IFSP*

Data from Implementation to 6/30/2003

SPOE Regions	Transition Meetings*	Children Eligible	% rec. Transition Meetings
St. Louis (Region 2)	371	693	53.54%
St. Charles (Region 1)	98	172	56.98%
Other Phase 1 SPOEs (Regions 4, 5, 6)	127	211	60.19%
Kansas City (Region 9)	40	144	27.78%
Springfield (Region 13)	63	133	47.37%
Jefferson County (Region 3)	24	108	22.22%
Other Phase 2 SPOEs	117	514	22.76%
Grand Total	840	1,975	42.53%

* Awareness for the coding process in reporting transition meetings is not yet consistent, so for the purposes of this report, IFSP Team Meetings taking place after a child turns 2.5 years old are also counted as transition meetings.

See exit data under CE.V

Part B Referrals from First Steps (Part C)	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002	2002-2003
Number of referrals from First Steps	1,210	1,632	1,856	2,128
Of those, the number of children that were ECSE eligible	1,001	1,315	1,492	1,746
Percent of referrals that were eligible	82.7%	80.6%	80.4%	82.0%

Source: ECSE Web Application

The standard, required IFSP form includes a section on transition plans. Data suggests that service coordinators are not conducting transition meetings in a timely manner, however, the data is based on authorizations for meetings which is not highly reliable at this point. Additional analysis and data collection is needed in order to draw conclusions in this area. Requirements of the Phase 1 SPOE RFP and the webSPOE software will make it difficult to not hold transition meetings, as well as make it more apparent to monitoring staff if the meetings are not held. Part C referrals to Part B have been increasing over the past four years, while a consistent 80 percent of referrals are found eligible. This would suggest that the redesigned program has made service coordinators aware of their responsibilities in terms of transition.

2. Targets: (for reporting period July 1, 2002 through June 30, 2003)

- All infants and toddlers will have smooth and timely transitions from Part C.

3. Explanation of Progress or Slippage: (for reporting period July 1, 2002 through June 30, 2003)

The new webSPOE software will include reports/notifications of impending deadlines, including timelines for transition meetings. The software will also require certain actions to be taken by service coordinators, including appropriate transition activities. Family exit survey data will provide additional information on the transition process and programs into which the children transitioned.

Due to the full implementation towards the end of the reporting year (July 1, 2002 through June 30, 2003), data provided under "Baseline/Trend Data and Analysis" will be considered baseline. The focus for the majority of 2002-03 was to reach full implementation for the redesigned First Steps program.

4. Projected Targets:

- All infants and toddlers will have smooth and timely transitions from Part C.
- Additional projected targets are in the Future Activities tables.

5. & 6. Future Activities to Achieve Projected Targets/Results and Projected Timelines and Resources:

See also GS.I, GS.II and CE.1

New Cluster/ Probe	IP Key	Activity Key	Activity Groups (5)	Future Activities to Achieve Projected Targets (5)	Projected Targets/ Evidence of Change (4)	Projected Timelines (6)	Resources (6)
GS.II CBT	4.7	4.7.3	Monitoring of data reports	Monitor C to B Transition report	Timely transition to Part B	9/2003	Comp
GS.II CBT	4.7	4.7.5	Monitoring of data reports	Monitor Exiting Reports	Timely transitions	7/2004	DSE Staff
GS.II CE.I CBT	4.7	4.7.8	Monitoring of data reports	Termination by reason	"Withdrawn," "unable to contact" and "refused by parent" inactivation reasons decreased	7/2003 - Ongoing	DSE Staff
GS.II CBT	4.7	4.7.15	Monitoring of data reports	Transition conference convened 180 days prior to third birthday	Timely transition conferences	7/2003 – Ongoing	Comp, Data
CBT	5.3	5.3.16	Develop and distribute guidance documents	Transition	Timely transition	7/2004	DSE Staff
GS.II CE.I CBT	5.7	5.7.1	Schedule regular meetings with First Steps and ECSE coalition	Facilitate transition from C to B	Timely transitions	10/2003 ongoing	DSE Staff
CE.V CBT	5.7	5.7.2	Schedule regular meetings with First Steps and ECSE coalition	Discuss 0-5 system	Improved transitions	Ongoing	Comp
CE.V CBT	5.7	5.7.3	Schedule regular meetings with First Steps and ECSE coalition	Discuss linking data from Part C to Part B	Improved transition	Ongoing	Comp, Data